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Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 04614 101128Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
----------026279 101132Z /23
O R 101107Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2052
INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

S E C R E T PRETORIA 4614

EXDIS HANDLE AS NODIS

FROM LOW

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, PINT, RH, ZA
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR ALL-PARTIES MEETING

1. IN THE EVENT OF AN ALL-PARTIES MEETING, AUGUST 19 OR THEREAFTER, AT LUANGAWA GAME PARK, NORTHEAST OF LUSAKA IN ZAMBIA, THE FOLLOWING ARE ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATIONS WHICH S/S AND THE UNDER SECRETARY'S PARTY MAY FIND USEFUL.

2. THE AIRFIELD FOR THE GAME PARK IS MAFUE. IT IS ABOUT ONE HOUR FLIGHT BY JET OR THE PRETORIA ATTACHE'S PLANE FROM LUSAKA. THE AIR STRIP IS PAVED. I HAVE LANDED THERE IN A BOEING 737 TWO-MOTOR JET.

3. THE LARGEST OF THE THREE GAME LODGES OWNED BY THE GOVERNMENT IS CHICHELE. IT IS HALF TO THREE QUARTERS HOUR TRIP FROM THE AIRPORT BY LANDROVER OR SEDAN. MOST OF THE JOURNEY IS THROUGH THE PARK WHERE ABUNDANT GAME WOULD BE IN EVIDENCE. I BELIEVE CHICHELE FACILITIES CAN HOLD ABOUT 30 PERSONS OR TWO OTHER
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GOVERNMENT GAME LODGES, HALF AN HOUR OR SO AWAY FROM CHICHELE, WHICH HOLD FEWER PERSONS. MOST OF THE ROAD AFTER YOU LEAVE THE AIRPORT IS DIRT OR GRAVEL AND PRESENTS NO PROBLEMS FOR DRIVING. IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO USE ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT HELICOPTERS FOR TRAVEL BETWEEN THE AIRPORT AND THE LODGES. THEY ARE PILOTED BY INDIANS.

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4. THE PARTY SIZE WILL HAVE TO BE STRICTLY LIMITED. WE TALKED ABOUT PRINCIPAL PLUS DEPUTY AND EACH OF THE AFRICAN PARTICIPANTS WILL CERTAINLY WANT TO BRING AT LEAST ONE BODY GUARD. THIS BRINGS PARTICIPANTS TO FIFTEEN. SMITH WILL, UNDOUBTEDLY, INSIST ON BRINGING GAYLORD AND ANOTHER OFFICIAL. OWEN WILL PROBABLY HAVE JOHNNY GRAHAM AND HIS LAWYER, HENRY STEEL, PLUS A PRIVATE ASSISTANT AND PERHAPS TWO OFFICIALS FOR RECORD TAKING. THUS, THE NUMBER AVAILABLE FOR THE AMERICAN PARTY WOULD BE VERY SMALL, IF EVERYONE IS TO FIT INTO CHICHELE LODGE AS IS HOPED.

5. I DO NOT KNOW WHETHER THE MAFUE STRIP WOULD TAKE A 707. MY GUESS IS THAT IT WOULD NOT. IN THIS CASE, TRANSPORT BETWEEN LUSAKA AND MAFUE WOULD HAVE TO BE EITHER BY A CHARTER ZAMBIAN AIRWAYS PASSENGER PLANE OR THE PRETORIA ATTACHE AIRCRAFT. THE LATTER COULD SERVE AS A COURIER FOR CLASSIFIED INFORMATION TWO OR THREE TIMES A DAY FROM LUSAKA. WITH HAND LUGGAGE IT HOLDS SEVEN. WITH LUGGAGE LIMITED TO 40 POUNDS PER OCCUPANT IT WILL HOLD FIVE.

6. OFFICE MATERIALS WOULD HAVE TO BE SUPPLIED BY THE EMBASSY IN LUSAKA, THOUGH THE OFFICE FACILITIES IN CHICHELE WILL BE MINIMAL. I BELIEVE GUESTS ARE HOUSED

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IN RONDAVELS AND THERE IS ONE MAIN LODGE, A DINING ROOM.

7. EMBASSY LUSAKA MAY WISH TO ADD TO THE ABOVE. THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION IN LUSAKA HAS BEEN QUERIED BY LONDON TO SUPPLY AS MUCH FURTHER INFORMATION AS IT CAN WITHOUT GOING TO THE ZAMBIANS. EMBASSY LUSAKA MAY WISH TO CONTACT THE HIGH COMMISSION TO CONCERT ON SUPPLYING FURTHER INFORMATION.
EDMONDSON

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